



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON



August 3, 1978

Novak

GRADUATE SCHOOL
Office of the Dean

EUGENE, OREGON 974 3
telephone (code 503) 686-1128

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
President
Rockefeller University
66th and York Ave.
New York, New York 10021

Dear Josh:

Best wishes in your new job. I think it will be an interesting time to get involved in a leadership position in a university, interesting in the sense that a lot of serious problems are developing which will require much more imagination than the traditional ones. I am sure you will bring some stimulating ideas to a place with excellence but uncertain direction.

Another reason I am writing is to call your attention to a friend, Mike Posner of our Psychology department, who will be at Rockefeller for six months beginning January. He will be directing a Sloan sponsored seminar on the central control mechanisms that produce language and guide the solution of problems (my understanding which may be inaccurate). I think the two of you would enjoy talking and I have suggested to him that he call you while at the Rockefeller. Like you has has original ideas and a wide interest range.

Cognitive psychology intrigues me. Obviously, you have been interested for some time. One wonders what will be the E. coli of this science--the computer, a lower animal, or the human. Were I starting out in science, I would choose to work here.

I am taking a quarter's leave during which I hope to have some undistracted time to read and talk to people. I'll have a desk at the Pasteur and plan on visits to a number of labs. At the least it should be very enjoyable and with luck I may find some problems which interest me and where I might be able to be useful.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Page 2
August 3, 1978

Jane and I are much the same; she still draws and now also writes. David finished Harvard Law School and has been with the FCC for a year, but now he intends to go get a Ph.D. in economics. Adam has been in and out of school trying to discover a subject that would engage him. Meanwhile, he has become an excellent jazz musician, painter, etc.

It would be great to see you again. I'll try reaching you next time I am in New York which would be next spring or summer.

Best regards,



Aaron Novick
Dean

AN:dc

JK-00A